### THOSE NOW BUILDING FOR OUR NAVY

Splendid Examples of the Cunning of Marine Engineers.

TO DEVELOP HIGH SPEED

(Copyrighted, 1897, by R. G. Skerrett.)



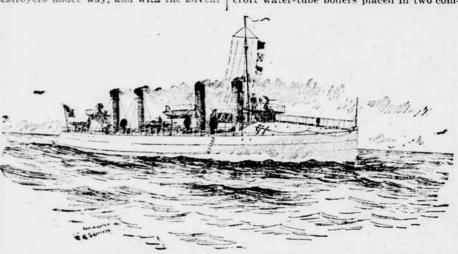
were opened at the Navy Department for the construction of three 30knot torpedo boats, to cost, in all, not over \$800,000. Had those bids involved the building of as many battle ships of the largest size no more intense interest could have been manifested by the

N JUNE 21 BIDS

hipbuing element of this country. As many as ten serious bids were receivedall upon the designs of the bidders, and practically a month has been required to determine to whom the awards should be made. The matter has now been so led. and the Navy Department has accepted the plans and terms of the Harlan & Hollingsworth Company, Wilmington, Del.; of the Gas Engine and Power Company, New York, and of Wolff & Zwicker, Portland, Oreg. By this disposition, one of the boats will be built on the Pacific coast

The torpedo boat destroyer today is a marvel of mechanical achievement, and see how far-reaching must be the fame of the builder of such a vessel. Hence, the strong competition. Out of a fleet of eighteen boats, Puilt or

building, we already have three 30-knot destroyers under way, and with the advent



GAS ENGINE AND POWER CO.'S BOAT.

half as many destroyers as we have typi-cally modern torpedo boats. The reason for this is two-fold. First, because a for can bring to bear upon our coast only the largest of her torpedo boats, together with her destroyers, and to meet them successfully we must have the strongest means of retaliation at hand; and second be cause the torpedo boat destroyer has prac-tically proved itself the torpedo boat's superior for hazardous work in heavy weather. In the minds of many thoughtful na-val men, our own needs, at least, will lead to the building only of destroyers and of stroyer can do all the needful rough sea work, while the moderate cost and the limited target of the smaller boat make them more desirable for the risky service for

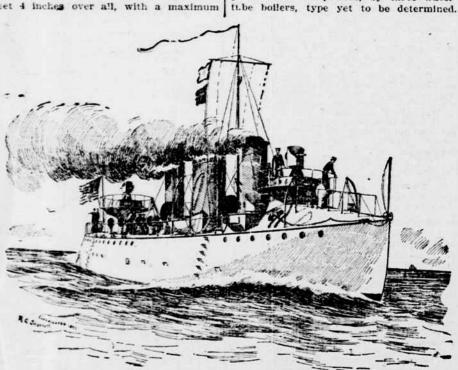
which they are designed. Beginning, then, as we have, we are but following the experience of the British, to whose costly experiments, involving millions, is due the torpedo boat destroyer of today; and many of the torpedo boats, pure and simple, that swell the lists of European powers today are substantially obsolete because of this newer order of craft. The French government has fourteen destroyers, but with the exception of two t boats, the rest range from 25 to 2 France pins her faith upon her fic tilla of one hundred and five first-class torpedo boats, varying in speed from 20 to 25 knots. Great Britain, the "hereditary foe" of France, has ninety-two destroyers, built and building. Of these forty-nine have a speed of 30 knots and over, while the rest range from 27 to 29 knots. Of first-class torpedo boats she has sixty-nine. These, figures are singularly instructive, in view of the work of the destroyers in the British maneuvers of '96, when, in spite of a gale, the destroyers effectually blockaded a fleet of torpedo boats, and held them in

The Largest. Of the three new boats, that of the Harlan and Hollingsworth Company is the largest and most formidable. She may be said to be an improved Thornycroft type, and the builders have declared it their intention to spare no pains or expense to

She has a long, finely modeled hull of 231 feet 4 inches over all, with a maximum

check for several days. make her an impressive success.

pressure of 250 pounds, by three water-



HARLAN & HOLLINGSWORTH BOAT.

beam of only 22 feet. Upon her trial dis-placement of 340 tons-about seventy tons less than her load displacement-she will placement of 340 tons—about seventy tons less than her load displacement—she will have a maximum draft of 7 feet 3 inches of water. Her bow is cut away, giving a clean, easy entrance into the water, and that, in conjunction with her goodly free-board forward of eleven feet, promises to make her an expentionally dry craft for make her an exceptionally dry craft for her kind. Her height above water, amid-ships, will be 8 feet 6 inches, and her long. ships, will be 8 feet 6 inches, and her long, flat run aft will keep her from settling by the stern when running at full speed, while materially increasing her seaworthiness.

She will carry two conning towers, one forward and one aft, and each will be supplied with both hand and steam steering gears, while upon the bridge just abaft the forward tower there will be a third steering gear for navigation in fair weather. Each of these conning towers will have the usual speaking tubes, telegraphs and electrical communications with all points of importance, besides means for spreading out the charts for plotting the course.

The decks will be covered with linoleum, and such wood as is used will be fireproofed.

The coal bunker capacity will be 131 tons, and that fuel will be stowed abresst the engines and boilers for the sake of protection against mild gun-fire.

The crew will be housed forward, and the officers aft, and everything will be done to secure all possible comfort and convenience within the allotted narrow

space.

There are two conning towers, and each has both hand and steam steering wheels, together with the usual electrical, mechanical and vocal means of communica-

tion.

The battery will consist of four 6-pounders and two 18-inch torpedo tubes.
One of the 6-pounders will be mounted on the forward tower and worked from the surrounding bridge, the rest will be disposed at points of vantage along the deck. The torpedo tubes are placed on the center line, one forward and one aft of the after coming tower, and each will have a wide arc of fire. She will carry four tor-

There will be a berthing space for twenty well forward; the bunks being made to turn up and out of the way when not in use. Accommodations for twelve firemen pedoes of the 18-inch, Whitehead type, and 198 rounds of ammunition will be provided for each of the 6-pounder guns.

The contract cost, exclusive of armament, is \$214,500.

The Gas Engine and Power Company's boat is last, but by no means the least in-

teresting.

This is the first time that the company has done any work for the navy, but its well-known work on fast yachts and launches of fine performance augurs well for the performance of this 30-knot boat.

This beat is something on the lines of the This boat is something on the lines of the British Poplar boats of 240 tons, but some-

what larger and more powerful.

She is 206 feet 9 luches lorg over all, and has a maximum beam of 19 feet. Her load displacement will be 265 tons, but she will be tried on thirty tons less. She will have

a maximum draft of eight feet over her screws. Forward and at the stem she has a freeboard of ten feet, while amidships it is seventy feet five inches.

She will be driven by two triple-expansions of the feet over the stem of the feet over her stem over the stem of the feet over her stem over the stem of the feet over her stem over the stem of the stem o

sion engines of the four-cylinder type ar-

ranged in a common compartment. These engines will each have one cylinder of

twenty inches, one of twenty-nine inches, and two of thirty inches in diameter, with a uniform stroke of eighteen incehs. When

running at full speed, the screws will make 400 turns, and an indicated horse-power of

Steam, at a working pressure of 245 pounds, will be supplied by four Seabury patent water-tube boilers. These boilers, in two water-tight compartments, will flark the engines forward and aft; and this

For Officers and Men.

choose the latter.

The decks will be covered with linoleum, and, like the others, she will be lighted by electricity and ventilated by blowers, while a small steam windlass will do most of the

a small steam windlass will do most of the heavy lifting.

As in the other boats, there are two conning towers, each fitted with the usual means of internal communication.

She will carry four 6-pounders, two of which will be on the deck, while the other two will be placed, one each, on the conning towers. It may be remarked that

ning towers. It may be remarked that

ming towers. It may be remarked that while these guns on the towers have superior arcs of fire, they are, nevertheless, seriously hampered by augmented vibration, and the experience abroad, except in

very moderate weather and under easy speed, has proven them very unreliable. She will carry two torpedo tubes for 18-inch Whitehead torpedoes, placed on the center-line amidships, and way aft, where they will have effective arcs of fire.

Exclusive of armament, the contract

A bald statement of the features and dimensions of these boats gives no notion of what they really are as pieces of naval architecture and examples of the cunning of marine engineers, nor from such facts

and figures can a layman grasp the work that these tiny vessels must do, nor appre-ciate the tax upon the men that have to

nanage them.

The vibration of those racing engines

transmits a tingling jar to every bit of her get-up, and, also, a taxing quiver to every soul on board that will wear out the

hardiest nerves. In times of serious service this must be aggravated by the nerveus tension of apprehension and danger, while at all times when at full speed the firemen and engineering the serious serious

while at all times when at full speed the firemen and engineers must face the cease-less drain the service of those engines and beliers puts upon them. Every ten min-utes the bollers evaporate their contents

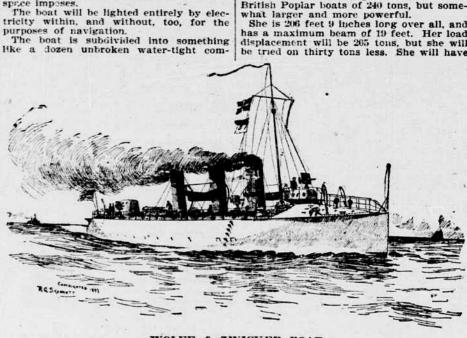
utes the boilers evaporate their contents of water and drive it out in the form of potent steam to feed those tearing engines. To do this the firing must be maintained almost incessantly, the gauges watched and the pressures checked, and all this while the furnaces glow with a blinding incandescence and the air swims with flying particles of coal dust.

If a locomotive were on wheels the size of the propellers of these boats and were driven four hundred turns a minute it would make quite eighty miles an hour.

ery moderate weather and under speed, has proven them very unre

price is \$210,000.

5,600 will be induced.



WOLFF & ZWICKER BOAT.

partments, without any means of intercommunication, passage up to the deck and down again being required for travel compartment to another. This is done to give added security in case of accident, and to obviate the danger of imperfectly working water-tight doors.

will be provided just abaft the engine

space. Next follows provisions for three machinists, while the quarters for the pet-ty officers, the chief engineer, the execu-

tive and the captain are further aft. While arranged with a very careful regard for space, the officers' quarters will be very prettily and comfortably appointed, and everything will be done to make them as commodious as the necessarily limited space impress.

space imposes.

### Her Powerful Engines.

The boat will be driven by two sets of triple-expansion engines, actuating twin screws. These engines, in a common compartment, are of the four-cylinder type, and have each a high-pressure cylinder of the fastest craft affoat; and it is easy to 21% inches, an intermediate pressure cylinder of 32½ inches, and two low-pressure cylinders of 34 inches in Giameter. They have a common stroke of 18 inches, and will make 400 revolutions a minute when running at full speed.

Steam will be supplied by four Thorny-croft water-tube boilers placed in two com-

flark the engines forward and aft; and this arrangement is calculated to lessen somewhat the danger of general disablement inmaking attack or in fleeing. The coal supply is stowed abreast the boilers and ahead and athwart the forward boiler. Again, so long as the coal lasts, this disposition of the forward coal may help to shield against forward coal may help to shield against fire in approaching.

The boat, like its predecessors, is subdivided into some ten or a dozen waterternal communication. There are accommodations forward for thirty-six, and quarters aft for seven officers-petty, warrant and commissioned. Canvas folding berths are provided for the enlisted men, while transom berths are fitted for the officers. Again, the nice adjustment of space is considered, and comjustment of space is considered, and comfort and convenience assured as far as possible. About the only woodwork in the
craft will be in the officers' quarters, and
there pretty paneling will do a good deal
to give an attractive finish to the cozy
surroundings. This boat, like the others,
will be fitted with baths for the officers,
but Jacky will have to take his bucket of
water on deck or go dirty; and it may be
remarked here that, in active service, offieers and crew alike will be very apt to
choose the latter.

of these latest boats we shalf have nearly partments, and enough steam, at a working pressure of 240 pounds, will be generated to induce an indicated horse power in the engines of 7,200 when running at full For the sake of protection against moderate gun-fire the coal is stowed abreast

the boilers. A small steam windlass forward will raise the anchors and handle such heavy weights as the boats may be required to

a torpedo boat destroyer, she will carry a battery of seven 6-pounder rapid-fire guns. There will be one on top of each conning tower, to be worked from the encircling bridge, one on each bow abreast the forward tower, and three amidships along the center-line. Each 6 pounder will be supplied with 198 rounds of ammunition. In her capacity as a torpedo boat, she will carry two 18-inch tubes for the discharge of Whitehead torpedoes. These tubes, one just abaft the other, are placed on the center-line between the after smokestack and the after conning tower. There will be a supply of four torpedces, the two spare ones being carried in cases on deck.

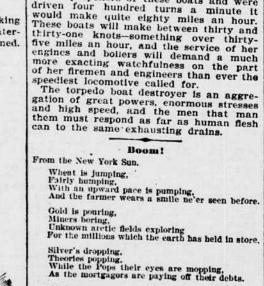
The contract price, excluding armament is \$230,000. is \$235,000.

The next boat, in point of size, is that to be built by the Wolff and Zwicker people. She is 197 feet long over all, and has an extreme beam of 20 feet 5 inches, and upon the state of th a load displacement of 560 tons will have a maximum draft of 815 feet of water she will be tried, however, upon a dis

placement of 247% tons.

At the stem she will be 8 feet 8 inches out of water, while amidships she will be 2 feet 2 inches lower. She will be propelled by two triple ex-She will be propelled by two triple expansion engines of the four-cylinder type. These engines will be placed in a common engine room abaft the bollers, and each will have one cylinder of 119½ inches, one of 31 3-4 inches, and two of 35 inches in diameter, with a common stroke of 18 inches. They do not state how many revolutions the engineer of the common stroke of 18 inches.

inches. They do not state how many revo-letions the engines are to make a minute, nor do they give the estimated indicated horse-power, but it is quite certain the pro-pelling machinery will make quite four hundred turns a minute, while the indi-cated horse-power will be fully 6,000. In Water-Tight Compartments. Steam will be supplied, at a working



All is bustle, All is bustle, Work for brain and work for muscle. The Calamityites are paying up their bets. Rather Previous.

From the Weekly Telegraph. A poor man lay dying, and his good wife was tending him with homely but affectionate care. "Don't you think you could eat a bit of something, John? Now what can I get for you?"

With a wan smile he answered, feebly: "Well, I seem to smell a ham a-cooking somewheres; I think I could do with a little bit of that."



Summer Rambles Through Wooded Uplands and Bosky Dells

## WELL REPAY THE LOVER OF NATURE

To Such a Man She Speaks a Various Language.

THE CHANGE SINCE SPRING

Written Exclusively for The Evening Star. I N APRIL AND MAY



ley throng, whose effervescing spirits found constant expression in song and sportiveness. They were on their way to their northern homes, and the way was fair, and love and courtship kept them company. It was their holiday time, when, free from care

the rural environ-

ments of the city

were overflowing

with an animated

debonair and mot-

and responsibility, they had nothing to do all day long but enjoy the many pleasures abundantly strewn upon their pathway. What bright and happy little things they were! Darting about amid the fresh and tender foliage; playing "tag" among the tree-tops; sometimes flashing down almost to the ground in the exhibaration of the sport; throwing off little bits of melody, the overflow of the full joyousness of their hearts; they set the whole forest a-quiver with gladness. Can it be that these sober little creatures silently stealing about under the leafy covers of the August woods are members of that breezy company? They are in truth our merry friends of the spring; but how changed! Their gala costumes have become solled and faded by the season's wear, or in some instances have been replaced by traveling garb of duller and more neutral hue. Their songs are hushed, and they have neither time nor disposition for the mad frolics that marked their northward journey. The labors and



raising have taught them that life is not all one continual round of pleasure and jollity; and sobered by the summer's lessons and reminded of their changed condition by the young families that are taking tion by the young families that with them, their first journey to the south with them. they quietly make their way through the land, giving so little indication of their presence that one who would greet them as they pass must watch keenly and assidnously in order not to miss them. They do not appear in a compact body

and take full possession of the land, as they did in the spring. Fortune has distributed her favors unequally among them. Upon some she has smiled and all their ventures have been successful, enabling them to promptly and speedily finish the summer's duties and make an early start on their long trip to the southland. Others, however, have had various mishaps and vicis-situdes to contend with and have been de-layed in consequence. Perhaps several unsuccessful suits were necessary before the lover could find a lady of his choice (one who would accept him). Perhaps one of the parties to the union had been destroyed and a second and more difficult quest for a wife or husband rendered necessary. Perhaps some destructive accident had hap pened to nest or eggs or young, necessitat-ing another commencement of the sum-mer's nidification. These and many other valid excuses might be offered if any were required to account for tardiness in setting out for the winter's quarters in the tropics. They certainly appear on the scene in a fashlon very different from the comparative simultaneity of their spring arrival. And it is not until late October that the last belated straggler takes his departure for the south.

Just Like Some Men.

All during August the arboreal hotels are registering boreal guests. Indeed, some very businesslike individuals who waste no time on sentiment, but mate and build and breed as unromantically as royalty itself, are enabled by their thrifty attention to business to commence their southward journey in July. First among these is the tree swallow, who usually registers himself



Rose-Breasted Grosbenk.

and wife and family here about July 10. What a very unpleasant hustler he must be in his home relations! We can imagine him building his nest. As Mrs. Tree Swallow meets him coming to the half-finished structure with material and greets him with terms of endearment, we can hear him say-ing with a mouth full of feathers, "Don't interrupt me, my dear, don't you see I'm busy?" But when he attends board meeting interrupt me, my dear, don't you see I'm busy?" But when he attends board meeting (on the telegraph wire) he is content to swell out his unruffied shirt front in one spot for so long a time that no one would suspect how precious his moments are. Perhaps he explains the apparent inconsistency to his wife by telling her that he has to attend these meetings in order to keep his standing in the community. And perhaps she believes him, but still wonders if that is the case with all the others, and what the effect would be if none attended. One of the earliest arrivals in August comes to us in a changed garb and character and under a different name from those of spring. In May his rather flashy suit of black and white was conspicuous in the meadows, while his rollicking song scintillated among the clover tops. We knew him then as the bobolink. But during the first part of August if you would knew him then as the bobolink. But during the first part of August if you would meet him on his return you must go to the marshes beside the river, and watch for a very quietly dressed little bird, who will address you with no note save a peculiar metallic "chink;" or ask some sportsman there wading about in the mud to gratify the killing instinct he inherits from remote ancestors to point out to you the reed bird, for such is the name by which our friend bobolink is now known.

He is a bird of aliases, this little cousin to the blackbirds and orioles. After he leaves us he goes to the rice marshes of South Carolina and Georgia, and visits them awhile under the name of rice bird be-

fore he finally passes on to his winter home, south of the Amazon. On the same day that the reed bird arrives in the marshes you may look among the branches of the forest trees for the dainty little blue-winged yellow warbler. A day or two later comes the Canadian warbler, still wearing the necklace of jet over his rich yellow vest that marked him so conspicuously in the spring. Then follow the chestnut-sided warbler and others in close succession, accompanied by flycatchers and sandpipers. After the middle of



the month we may expect the veery, the only one of the thrushes to return to us in August, and the rose-breasted grosbeak, a handsome cousin of our own cardinal gros-beak. These and many other migrants are with us in August; but their presence is completely hidden from the casual observer; and even the searcher who peers into the dense foliage to penetrate its secrets must look closely in order to know that it contains more than its usual number of in-

#### habitants. A Victim to Fashion.

While receiving these accessions to the bird life in our midst we suffer but one loss during the menth, and this only a visitor who, after nesting further south, had come to take a short trip to Washington or some more northerly point before going finally to the far south for the winter. This bird, the American egret, spends its time while with us beside some lonely and retired stream. It has reason for seeking seques-tered localities. It has been for some years the subject of a war of extermination, now nearly completed. And for what? It is not a pest, nor is it a game bird, one of those unfortunates selected by man for enjoyable slaughter. Alas! it is possessed of a fatal beauty of plumage during the breeding season that has docmed it to destruction. And it is gentle womankind that has decreed its destiny. It has certain long white plumes for which it is hunted while it is caring for its young, and, owing to is strong parental instinct, it falls an easy prey. It is shot without difficulty, the cova pest, nor is it a game bird, one of thos prey. It is shot without difficulty, the cov-eted plumes are plucked from the fluttering body and the wounded bird and the young brood in whose defense it received its deat! blow are left to perish. Hundreds of thou sands of egrets are annually slaughtered sands of egrets are annually staughtered in this most heartless fashion in order to supply the demand for "aigrettes," as the pretty plumes are called in the market. Thus is thoughtless feminine vanity grati-fied, and thus are the beautiful egret and its progeny devoted to extermination, and yet we are supposed to have emerged from barbarism.

Among the arrivals of the month is a winter visitor. Coming to us in August it does not leave again until the following Indeed, I am inclined to suspect that it is liable to be found here at any time throughout the year, though it has never yet been seen in our vicinity in May, June or July. This is the loggerhead shrike or butcher bird, a name more appropriate. for it is almost human in its cruelty and indifference to suffering. It is thickset, with a hooked, hawk-like beak, and is rather strikingly marked with black horizontal lines, at eye and wing and tall.
Perching upon some commanding spot it
keeps watch for grasshoppers, small
snakes, little birds or whatever other bit of animated life it may choose for its prey. Suddenly it darts down, selzes one of these victims, carries it to a nearby thorn tree or barbed wire fence, impales it upon the thorn or barb, and then quietly resumes its perch to watch for another, heeding the tortures of the pear creature of the pear treature. tortures of the poor creature no more than the algrette hunter heeds the suffering he leaves in his path. Of course there is some justification for the butcher bird—it is simply stocking its larder with necessary provisions, and it takes a convenient though cruel method of doing so.

Perfectly Willing to Try.

The butcher bird is a very inferior singer aithough, like many of the human kind, he does not allow this fact to deter him from frequent exhibitions of the limited vocal powers he possesses. His voice is creaky, nd his standard of maladia somewhat low. Still at the time he appears among us he has very few competitors to into disfavor, cast his performance



most of the birds have reached that point in their annual career when music, which played so important a part at first, has been allowed to sink lower and lower, until finally it has fallen into disuse. Some of the birds may be heard, however. The redeyed virio continues his monotonous mono ogue in the forest, with the indigo bird in logue in the forest, with the indigo bird in the meadow keeping him company. An occasional song may be vouchsafed by the cardinal, Carolina wren, wood pewee, tufted titmouse, chickadee or chipping sparrow, while the field sparrow's pastoral lay still falls upon the ear with scarcely diminished frequency. The call of the partridge, the ventriloqual "hanh, hanh" of the white-breested puthete and the anylogs. white-breasted nuthatch and the anxious-sounding chatter of the goldfinch, will once in a while greet the rambler. But genera while greet the rambier. But generally the songs have subsided, their place being supplied by the chirping and shrilling of insects in the grass and the space-filling buzzing of the locusts in the trees. Insects are so numerous that impromptu hunting parties are often organized among the birds of an evening, amateurs such as the blue birds and sparrows of various kinds join-ing with the professional king birds and

wood pewees in the "sport."

Rugust is a dangerous month for insects.

Not only do they have to serve as subjects of this friendly competition and as meals for less merry, but quite as deadly, birds, but if they escape these dangers they are liable to become enmeshed in some of the numerous spiders' webs that are now be-coming common in the woods. These webs as well as a menace to the insects are a source of annoyance to the human wood frequenter, for the spiders have no regard for the rights of the user of a pathway or road, but erect their puny barriers across either with the utmost indifference to the convenience of the public. Usually it is only a line or two that breaks across the face of the passerby; but often a full web will be encountered, with the owner himwill be encountered, with the owner him-self perhaps in the center. It is sometimes amusing to watch the tactics of the spider when disturbed in his web. He tries to frighten the rash intruder by methods sim-ilar to those attributed to the Chinese, who are said to have turned somersaults before an advancing foe in order to strike terror to his heart. I have seen a large black and vellow spider hang by a single long thread to his heart. I have seen a large black and yellow spider hang by a single long thread and turn round and round, the yellow flashing out like the intermittent light of a revolving light house. This maneuver not producing the desired effect, he clambered up the line, placed himself in the very middle of his web and shook the whole structure rapidly back and forth with clock-like that he moved to enther the structure of the seen and shook the whole structure rapidly back and forth with clock-like that he moved to enther the seen and seen a large black and the seen along the seen and th rhythm. Then he moved to another portion of the web and gave another shake, and then tried various other positions and different kinds of shakes, all with the hope of terrifying the big enemy who had touched him with his stick.

## Midsummer Rambles.

These finest webs are the beginning of a nulsance that grows to be quite a drawback to woodland rambles as we advance into autumn. Still a stick (and one should always carry one on a jaunt, it is useful in so many ways) kept constantly moving before the face somewhat mitigates the annoyance and saves the face from many a disagreeable contact. However, the Au-gust rambler is more apt to seek meadows and open land rather than woods. For though he must there encounter the sun-

shine in its full force, yet if the day be varm enough to make this objectionable ne will find still greater discomfort in the close atmosphere of the woodland shades. where breezes do not penetrate and where too, in addition to the spider web nuisance he will be apt to be tormented by gnats and stinging flies. But for another reason than mere comfort he will be impelled meadow ward. The floral attractions offered by the open country far surpass those of the forest. The increasing wealth of the former and the decreasing wealth of the latter noted in July have become still more

marked as the summer has progressed. Still the woods are not devoid of interstill the woods are not devoid of interest, so far as flowers are concerned. The
tick trefoils, whose pretty pink olossoms
of the butterfly or pea type—papillonaceous
is the technical term—give a distinctive
character to the undergrowth, are ample
reward for an occasional stroll into the
leafy arbors. The pure waxy clumps of
Indian pipe, often as beautiful as they are
singular; the large and brilliant red blossoms of the showy cardinal flower, which
grows in damp spots; the fragrant clusters grows in damp spots; the frigrant clusters of wild clematis clambering over bushes and small trees; the pungent, purple-flowered dittany; the tall stalks and deep and large vellow curs of the false involves; the ed dittany; the tall stalks and deep and large yellow cups of the false roxglove; the yellow-rayed and dark-centered flowers of the wild coreopsis—these are all well worthy of the seeking, even at the expense of some personal comfort.

Then, too, there are some of the orchids which the August woods offer as incentive to the botanical explorer. The crane-fly orchis, whose tall stalk, surrounded by its

orchis, whose tall stalk, surrounded by its many blossoms, has a certain beauty of its own, though the flowers are rather small in size and of an inconspicuous greenish color. Not so much can be said for the diminutive coral root (which should be sought toward the close of the month). Still it has an attraction to the botanist because and may, perhaps, be allowed an individual claim to attention on account of the curious root from which it derives its name. The rein orchis is also rather small and easily overlooked, and must rest its principal claim, like the coral root, upon its family

### When Mendows Are Gay.

In the meadows the floral display is over whelming in its variety. Daisy fleabane yarrow, wild carrot, Deptford pink, St John's-wort, cone flower and hosts of other blooms combine gracefully and in attractive groups to fill the landscape with beauty and orightness. The purple heads of the self-



Spotted Sandpiper.

heal are now abundant; the mullein is in its glory; rosy clusters of ironweed and pale and larger ones of Jae Pye weed are massed in low places, watered by a hidden stream when, in company with the frowsy white heads of the boneset, or thoroughwort, they stand on each side to protect the little musician at their feet. Various kinds of sunflowers, ranging in size from the large heads of the variety so dear to the heart of the "Afro-American" dweller in rural precincts, to small heads no bigger than a silver dollar, turn their faces upward to greet the god of day, whose namesakes they

These are all weedy plants. But the August meadows hold many of a manner so delicate and ornamental that even the average rustic mind would concede to them the title of "flowers." The brilliant pink clustered blossoms of the centaury would lift it into that higher class, while its kinship to the noted and elegant gentians accentuates its claim to distinction. The odd-shaped blue blossoms of the monkey flower -supposed to suggest the facial peculiarities of a monkey-would have no difficulty in obtaining due recognition. And no one would think of classing with weeds the dainty blue (or sometimes pink) little flowers of the blue curis, which begin to Yonkers for some time, and to do some come into prominence near the close of the month. The ladies' tresses has, of course, an indisputable right to the title, as it is an orchid, but it can afford to waive consideration of family distinction and rest its case solely upon the small spiral columns of white blossoms it lifts a few inches above the ground. The name of the meadow beauty indicates the common opinion of that rather showy deep pink flower, that expands its petals in damp places as its contribution to the month's bouquet, but it is deserving of the name only in its natural place, for when transferred to a bunch of gathered flowers it has a disconsequently health of boding its petals and bunch of gathered flowers it has a disagreeable habit of losing its petals and presenting a poor stump to the view.

## Nature's Face in August.

These are a few, a very few, of the choice blossoms that greet one who seeks them in the August wilds, a courageous venture, perhaps, on the hot sunny days that are commonly remembered, but very easy and delightful on those charming days that are commonly forgotten. If you will watch for them and note them, you will probably be surprised to find how many days there are during the month that are suggestive of or autumn. When the goldfluches, inspired by the pure air and cool, refreshing breezes, burst into one of those ecstatic little choruses that were so frequent during the days of courtship; when the song sparrow in the thicket beside the brook sends a spring carol across the field; when from the grove of clustering caks nearby comes the vibratory pedal-note of the flicker, it requires little imagination for the listener to transport himself in fancy to the days when the year was young. And when, on the other hand, a



cool wind sweeps through the trees, which here and there show painted spots, its rough sport followed by the sound of loose leaves fluttering to the ground; when the warmth of the sunshine feels grateful, when the elfin horn of the nuthatch is heard again, and the clarion tones of the Carolina wren suddenly ring out; while distant calls of crows and jays are borne upon the air, then does it seem hard to believe that this is the summer of the white man and not that of the Indian HENRY OLDYS.

Woman.

ekly.

"I think it's horrid of the men to stare so, Don't you?"
"Yes. Let's hurry and get into the water."
"Oh, wait a moment. I see Mr. Flend coming this way with his kodek."

# AND ARTISTS

The good sketching weather that has

thus far prevailed this summer has enabled Max Weyl to accomplish a great deal. In fact, he has done very little studio work this season, but has devoted his energies to setting down his impressions from nature. A recent trip to Glen Echo resulted in two effective canvases, one a quick suggestion of an approaching storm, the other a carefully studied wood interior. The latter was painted at a spot just a little below the old amphitheater, a quiet nook, where the waters of the little stream now hurry noisily over the moss-covered rocks and now rest felly in deep pools, where scarcely a ripple breaks the surface. In these placid xpanses is mirrored the foliage of the expanses is mirrored the foliage of the overhanging trees, those "green-robed senators of the mighty woods." In the open spaces, where the sunshine breaks through, the effect of light upon the rocks and the sparkling cascades is finely managed, and, in truth, the artist has never handled a similar subject in a mere thoroughly satisfactory manner. Another motive which Mr. Weyl obtained a few days ago is a view of the Potomac marshes, a favorite view of the Potomac marshes, a favorite haunt with him and a region that he has haunt with him and a region that he has made familiar to the public through his glowing color studies. The cloud effect is very striking in this canvas, and the same nay be said of a view which he painted on the hills of Arlington a short time ago. Next week he will leave the city to join his family at Keswick Albergarie county. Ve family at Keswick, Albemarle county, Va. family at Keswick, Albemarie county, va. Mr Weyl is enthusiastic about the material to be found in that vicinity, and being situated near Monticello, the home of Jefferson, and not far from Charlottesville, the beautiful subjects around these places will be accessible to him.

In the water colors she has been doing Miss Atwater has demonstrated, as other artists have, that there are just as good motives to be found in and about Washington as may be obtained by wandering far away in the summer months. She is well qualified to carry to a successful issue the series of street scenes on which she is now engaged, both on account of her taste in that direction and by reason of her study under Childe Hassam, that master of this class of subjects. Her most recent sketch class of subjects. Her most recent sketch is a view of the avenue seen from the Treasury, with the new post office building leoming up in the middle distance, and the white dome of the Capitol rising at the end of the thoroughfare. She never falls to get sunlight into her outdoor work, and there is also a nice quality about her skies. This is true of a sketch she made near the Georgetown canal recently, a study of one of the quaint little bridges. An interesting color study that she has made shows two youngsters standing in front of a bill board, with its decoration of many-hued posters. Miss Atwater is at present occupying Mr. Miss Atwater is at present occupying Mr. E. F. Andrews' house, and though she does her best work out of doors, his commodious studio offers an excellent place to paint when she and her pupils are so minded.

Mr. H. B. Bradford has been occupied ately by his work in charcoal and pen drawing. He has just completed an excellent portrait in charcoal of Mr. Bowen, which is commendable both as a likeness and as an artistic piece of portraiture, Aside from this, Mr. Bradford has been working on a number of pencil sketches, mainly of horses and cattle, carefully studied from nature. A recent pen and ink sketch, representing an old man reading a newspaper, and a young hopeful pestering him with questions, is interesting as a piece of illustration, and also in that the man in the drawing is a very good likeness of Mr. Bradford's father. Aside from this Mr. Bradford has a good deal of other pen and ink work which he has been engaged en lately, including a number of heads in various poses, and a silhouette and white of a dog snapping at the heels of a young woman.

Whether Mrs. Hoyle wil spend her sum-Yonkers for some time, and to do some the goes the time she expects to devote to art will be spent mainly in outdoor work. Mrs. Hoyle will undertake a number of oil portraits on her return to the city next fall

Before leaving town this week for the summer Miss Grace M. Patten executed quite a striking portrait of her mother in oil. This was about the last work of any consequence that Miss Patten did, previous to this she painted a portrait of ex-Governor Perham of Maryland, and has also done a number of smaller things dur-ing the past week. She will have an opportunity to do some very effective land-scape work where she expects to be, and is planning to devote her time mainly to this branch of work.

Miss Hattie E. Burdette left the city on Thursday for a pretty spot in Maryland, where she expects to divide her time between work and recreation. She has not done very much color work since her exhibition in the spring, but has confined herself to black and white. One thing executed recently which is in full color is a pastel head of a dark-haired beauty.

Letters that have been received from Miss Clara Hill, who went abroad to study in the spring, bring the information that she has entered one of the Julien studios. She is residing in the suburbs of Paris with her mother and Mrs. W. Irving

## Giant of the Tar-Heel State.

rom the Salisbury, N. C., World, William Austin, the tall man of Stanly county, is now working at the old blacksmith shop on Lee street. He was twentyone years old on the 13th of April, measures 6 feet 9% inches in his stocking feet, and is still growing. He weighs 225 pounds and is apparently a skeleton now, but with large bones and muscles. He lifted when only nineteen years old a bale of cotton weighing over 500 pounds and carried it some twenty-five yards. Only recently three northern gentlemen offered him \$5,000 to go in training for five years to fight the to go in training for five years to fight the champion of the world. He has never smoked, chewed or drank any intoxicants, and looks the picture of health.

### A Wisconsin Blondin. From the Milwaukee Sentinel.

Charles Helbach, a well-known slack and tight wire walker of Neenah, has decided to imitate Blondin and walk a cable stretcheed across the Niagara Falls. Helbach has not the money to carry out the undertaking, but Henry Fitzgibbon, a prominent attorney of Neenah, has signified his intention of backing Helbach. The latter will leave for the falls in a few days. Helbach is a young man of twenty-five years and has frequently attracted attention in and has frequently attracted attention in this part of the state by performing dare-devil feats on a wire. Recently-he stretched a rope across two high buildings and amused his friends by giving an exhibition. He has traveled with several circuses and has acquired quite a reputation in his line, He anticipates no trouble in crossing the falls. Arrangements are now under way for the act.

# His Natural Failing.

From the Atlanta Constitution. An old darky was arrested for stealing a silver dollar. The dollar was found on his person and produced in court. "You stole this money?" asked the judge.

"Dat's whut dey says, suh!" "Well, what have you to say for your-"Well, suh, nuttin' much, 'ceptin' dat I

wuz driv ter it."
"Driven to it?"
"Yes, suh. You see, jedge, dat dollar had a bird en it, en it look so much like a game chicken dat I thought I wuz in a hen roos', en des nachully bagged it."

"I pity a man who is not beloved by chil-

dren."
"Don't lavish too much sympathy on him; he can wear a linen suit all day and look respectable."—Chicago Record.